



WORKING
TOGETHER



**DORSET
POLICE**

Joint Information Board

Tuesday 30 June 2026

Commenced at 10.00am via Microsoft Teams

Attendance

Steve Lyne (Assistant Chief Constable) (Dorset)
(Chair)
Richard Scott (Alliance Head of Information
Management)
Sarah Bamford (T/Head of Business Change)
Graeme Johnston (Information Standards
Manager)
Tracey Furbear (Data Protection and Information
Sharing Manager)
Gina Berry (Senior Data Protection Advisor)
Sarah Gillingham (Dorset Union Representative)

Scott Bradley (Chief Superintendent Local Policing)
(Devon and Cornwall)
Fiona Bohan (Performance Analysis
Manager)
Oliver Marks (Information Assurance Manager)
Lucianne Pharoah (Information Manager)
(Dorset)
Tom Smith (OPCC Scrutiny Manager)
(Dorset)
Charles Jagger (GMB Branch Secretary)
Jane Makewell (Specialist Support Coordinator)

Apologies

Jim Colwell (Deputy Chief Constable) (Devon
and Cornwall)
Mike Stamp (Joint SIRO/Director of Legal,
Reputation and Risk)
Anthony Hart (Superintendent Local Policing)
(Devon and Cornwall)
Mark Chivers
(Chief Technology Officer)
Lesley Bulley (T/Head of Professional Standards
Department)

Matt Longman (T/Assistant Chief Constable, Local
Policing) (Devon and Cornwall)
Neil Corrigan (Chief Superintendent, Contact
Management) (Dorset)
Ricky Dhanda (Superintendent, Professional
Standards Department) (Dorset)
Louise Fenwick (Alliance Head of Business
Change)
Jo George
(Senior Audit Manager)

Guests

Andy Bennington (ICT Digital Delivery Manager)
(representative for Mark Chivers)

03/26/29 Opening and Declaration of Interests [FOIA Open]

Steve Lyne opened the meeting, welcomed members and noted apologies. No declarations of interest, Health and Safety, or equality concerns were raised.

Fiona Bohan, Sarah Bamford and Scott Bradley joined the meeting.

03/26/30 Minutes of the meeting Tuesday 31 March 2026 [FOIA Open]

The minutes of the previous meeting on Tuesday 31 March 2026 were agreed as a true and accurate record subject to the following changes:

- The minutes would reflect apologies from Richard Scott.

03/26/31 Action Log [FOIA Open unless exemptions specified below]

- a. **Action 261 Information Assurance Quarterly Update** (previous minute reference 01/25/08, 02/25/13m, 03/25/28d, 04/25/42b, 01/26/03a and 02/26/17a) [FOIA Closed s.24]
Work was ongoing.
Action to remain open.
- b. **Action 263 Information Assurance Quarterly Update - Cyber Security Training** (previous minute reference 02/25/16, 03/25/28f, 04/25/42c, 01/26/03b and 02/26/17b) [FOIA Closed s. 43]
Work was ongoing.
Action to remain open.
- c. **Action 264 Information Assurance Quarterly Update - Change Handbook** (previous minute reference 02/25/16 and 03/25/28g)
Activity completed.
Action closed.
- d. **Action 271 Information Assurance Quarterly Update - AI communication** (previous minute reference 03/25/30)
Activity completed.
Action closed.
- e. **Action 286 Incident Management (Data Breaches) Update** (previous minute reference 01/26/04)
Activity completed.
Action closed.
- f. **Action 289 Incident Management (Data Breaches) Update** (previous minute reference 01/26/04)
Activity completed.
Action closed.
- g. **Action 292 Review of Information Asset Owner (IAO) Position and Performance** (previous minute reference 01/26/10)
Activity completed.
Action closed.
- h. **Action 298 Data Protection Compliance** (previous minute reference 02/26/22)
The ownership of the action had moved from Tracey Furbear to Richard Scott and work was ongoing.
Action closed.

- i. **Action 299 Information Technology Health Check (ITHC) and Technical Vulnerability Management [FOIA Closed s.24 Safeguarding National Security]** (previous minute reference 02/26/21)
[This section has been redacted under Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 24]
- j. **Action 300 Review of Information Asset Owner Position and Performance - increase awareness of information management** (previous minute reference 02/26/23)
Activity completed.
Action closed.
- k. **Action 301 Review of Information Asset Owner Position and Performance - input at Senior Leaders' event** (previous minute reference 02/26/23)
Work was ongoing.
Action to remain open.
- l. **Action 302 Update from Key Meetings - An Approach to Artificial Intelligence (AI)** (previous minute reference 02/26/24)
Activity completed.
Action closed.
- m. **Action 303 Update from Key Meetings - An Approach to AI** (previous minute reference 02/26/24)
Activity completed.
Action closed.
- n. **Action 304 Independent Inquiry into Grooming Gangs** (previous minute reference 02/26/25)
Activity completed.
Action closed.
- o. **Action 305 Terms of Reference Annual Review** (previous minute reference 02/26/28)
Activity completed.
Action closed.

Lucianne Pharoah joined the meeting.

03/26/32 Information Assurance Incident Management [FOIA Closed s.24 Safeguarding National Security]

[This section has been redacted under Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 24]

03/26/33 Information Assurance (IA) Quarterly Review [FOIA Closed s.24 Safeguarding National Security]

[This section has been redacted under Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 24]

Kim Goodenough left the meeting.

03/26/34 Information Technology Health Check (ITHC) and Technical Vulnerability Management [FOIA Closed s.24 Safeguarding National Security]

[This section has been redacted under Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 24]

03/26/35 Policy and Procedure Update [FOIA Open]

Members received the Policy and Procedure Update paper from Fiona Bohan and noted that there were 18 Information Management policies and procedures that were owned by Alliance Information Management and were under active review and development.

It was reported that DCP-P-004 Supply of Information to Outside Parties Policy was ready for publication. J-P-011 Records Management Policy was also ready for publication following a significant rewrite. Associated implementation work was ongoing with ICT, and a new supporting procedure was being developed. J-Pr-031 Use of OneDrive Procedure remained under development, while J-Pr-005 Alliance Information Security Procedure had been suspended pending review by Information Assurance. The importance of progressing both the Records Management and OneDrive workstreams was noted.

The Board reviewed policy usage statistics and noted that J-P-113 Artificial Intelligence Acceptable Use Policy was the most viewed policy across the Alliance. J-Pr-035 Copilot Chat Procedure was the sixth most viewed document, while J-P-011 Alliance Information Management Policy remained one of the ten most accessed documents on SharePoint. Members questioned whether the relatively low viewing figures suggested that some users were accessing AI tools before reviewing the associated guidance.

Members noted that all policies and procedures due for review within the next three to six months had been identified in the report. It was confirmed that reviews were initiated 90 days before a document's scheduled review date and that any policies exceeding their review date by more than 90 days were escalated to the Force Delivery Board for additional oversight.

Sarah Gillingham joined the meeting.

Members welcomed the report and noted that it provided useful visibility of the policy development pipeline. Emphasis was placed on the importance of publishing the Records Management Policy, which would support compliance with new standards, data management principles and wider organisational change activity.

Fiona Bohan left the meeting.

03/26/36 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Compliance [FOIA Open]

Members received the FOIA Compliance report presented by Esther Lee, which provided an update on ongoing compliance with the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000 across both forces. The paper was taken as read, with attention drawn to three key areas: FOI compliance, the focus on proactive publication, and the first-tier tribunal response received relating to the Plymouth incinerator case.

Members noted that FOI compliance had continued to improve across the Alliance, with average compliance for the first five months of 2026 standing at 77.5%, compared to 68.1% during the same period in 2025. This reflected a particularly strong improvement within Devon and Cornwall, while Dorset had maintained consistently high levels of compliance. Of note was the proactive use of the publication scheme, which served to reduce demand by allowing requesters to be directed promptly to the information they were seeking.

The Board discussed FOI backlogs. As of 8 June 2026, there were 84 outstanding cases in Devon and Cornwall and 62 in Dorset. While the overall backlog volumes were not considered excessive, concern was expressed regarding the age of some requests. The oldest request in Devon and Cornwall was 202 days overdue and the oldest in Dorset was 278 days overdue, with several overdue requests dating back to 2025. It was explained that delays were often linked to the time required to obtain information from business areas and prepare it appropriately for disclosure. However, members challenged whether Information Asset Owners (IAO) were responding quickly enough and noted that the age of some requests represented an unnecessary organisational risk.

During discussions the following action was created:

1. Esther Lee would provide Steve Lyne and Scott Bradley with the details of outstanding FOI cases and their Asset Owners in Dorset and Devon and Cornwall respectively by close of business on 3 July 2026.

For action by:

Esther Lee

The Board:

1. Noted the performance of the Freedom of Information team and the improvement that had been seen in relation to compliance in 2026.
2. Noted the work that had been done in relation to proactive publication and next steps.
3. Noted the recent tribunal decisions for DCP and the increased focus and importance placed on FOI by the ICO, the General Regulatory Chamber (GRC), and the Administrative Appeals Chamber (AAC).

The Board broke at 11.18am and reconvened at 11.30am.

03/26/37 Data Protection Compliance [FOIA Open]

Members noted the Data Protection compliance paper presented by Tracey Furbear and Gina Berry, which provided an update on ongoing compliance across the Alliance as required by data protection legislation. The paper was received as information only and taken as read. Three key issues were highlighted:

- The growing risk of non-compliance with Data Protection legislation due to Subject Access Request (SAR) backlogs.
- The development of a three-year improvement plan which would be submitted to the Joint Information Board meeting on 14 July 2026.

- Ongoing recruitment challenges within the team.

The Board discussed the significant risks associated with the growing SAR backlog, particularly the potential for non-compliance with statutory requirements and the risk of regulatory action or financial penalties. Concerns were raised about whether a business-as-usual approach was sufficient to address the issue or whether a more formal escalation would be required. It was reported that there were 1,052 SARs in progress, including 883 cases outside the statutory timeframe, representing a substantial increase in the backlog since the last report.

Members noted that recruitment difficulties were exacerbating the SAR backlog. Recent recruitment activity had been unsuccessful, with candidates withdrawing, declining offers, or accepting roles elsewhere. Of 10.22 established posts, 4.22 remained vacant, including a senior position, and there were concerns about the impact of delays in Human Resource (HR) and vetting processes on the organisation's ability to fill vacancies. It was recognised that the backlog was largely a resourcing issue and that SAR work required specialist skills and training, which limited opportunities for immediate redeployment of staff from elsewhere in the organisations.

The Board considered options for recovery, including a phased approach requiring different levels of investment and staffing. While a faster recovery could require up to 20 additional full time equivalent (FTE) posts, members acknowledged the practical and financial challenges of recruiting and training staff at that scale. Technology solutions were also discussed, including ongoing trials of AI, automation and redaction tools. Although some pilots had shown promise, it was recognised that technology alone would not resolve the issue and that additional resource would still be required.

Sarah Bamford rejoined the meeting.

Members further noted that increasing volumes and complexity of SARs were being experienced nationally, with similar challenges reported across the sector. Members agreed that a sustainable long-term solution was needed. A draft paper setting out recovery options, recruitment challenges and proposed actions was due for consideration in the Joint Executive Board on 23 July 2026, with further discussions to review the available options and identify any additional support that could be provided.

03/26/38 Update from Key Meetings [FOIA Open unless exemptions specified below]

a) Technology Board

Andy Bennington provided a verbal update on activities and discussions from Technology Board. The Technology Board last met on 30 April 2026. During the Technology Board meeting, the Managed Service Contract had been discussed at length. Service Desk tickets were now being automatically created when key infrastructure went offline to allow for pre-emptive action.

Recruitment and retention remained key risks, with ICT operating at an 11% vacancy rate, particularly within Communications, where only two of five FTE posts were filled. Lengthy vetting processes continued to affect recruitment, delaying the appointment of critical roles. Communications covered Airwave, mobile phone and satellite services. They continued to receive generally good support from the supplier. However, delays were being experienced in replacing mobile phones, and requests for new services had created a delivery bottleneck.

It was noted that increasing demand for AI technology had driven up the cost of Central Processing Units (CPUs) and memory significantly, with supply pressures expected to continue until at least late 2027.

An update was also provided on ongoing Digital, Data and Technology (DDaT) consultancy work, focused on improving information flows, learning from other departments and organisations and making better use of organisational data. The importance of aligning the emerging strategy with available capital funding and delivery priorities was emphasised.

b) Joint Strategic Change Board

Sarah Bamford presented a paper to update the Board on the activities of Joint Strategic Change Board (JSCB) which looked at the minutes of the JSCB meeting on 7 May 2026 and the agenda for the meeting on 9 July 2026. Key risks within the change portfolio continued to be resource capacity and the availability of specialist skills. The Single Front Door programme was highlighted as an important mechanism for managing demand, prioritising work and aligning change activity with organisational priorities and workforce capacity.

Data quality remained a significant concern and was recognised as critical to the successful delivery of digital transformation and future technology initiatives.

An update on the Body Worn Video (BWV) programme noted that progress had improved considerably, with delivery remaining on track for October 2026. Training for both organisations was planned for September 2026, and a further update on the alignment of BWV and Taser programmes would be presented at the next Joint Strategic Change Board meeting on 9 July 2026.

[This section has been redacted under Freedom of Information Act 2000 Section 43]

Key items due to be considered by the Joint Strategic Change Board on 9 July 2026, including National Law Enforcement Data Services (NLEDS) Final Endpoint Switchover (FES) updates, Digital Case Files, programme finances, STORM data volume management, the Single Front Door programme, Microsoft Copilot, data asset management, data quality, workforce implications and programme updates.

Members highlighted the need to identify and monitor future risks associated with change activity across business, ICT, and IT functions. A consolidated risk paper was proposed to bring together key themes, support informed decision-making, and highlight potential impacts across the organisation. It was noted that the Board had often focused on reviewing past activity and should place greater emphasis on forward planning. Members agreed there was a need for a more strategic, organisation-wide approach to change, using emerging insights and digital developments to shape future priorities rather than simply responding to immediate issues.

During discussions, the following action was created:

1. Before the next JIB meeting on 29 September 2026, Richard Scott would liaise with the Chief Technology Officer and Sarah Bamford to explore the development of a single 'Forward Look' presentation or paper that brings together the key priorities and insights

from both JSCB and Technology Board to focus on both existing priorities and future concerns for JIB.

For action by:

Richard Scott

03/26/39 Summary of Actions [FOIA Open]

Jane Makewell summarised and clarified the actions that had been created during the meeting.

Date, Time, and Location of Next Meeting

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.12pm. The next Joint Information Board meeting would be held on Tuesday 29 September 2026 commencing at 10.00am via Teams.